Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

1	Timely Information
2	Nets of Interest ACS/ARES Corner
3	Member Updates
4	The Marketplace
5	Simi Settlers' Leadership
6	Membership Form

The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday July 9, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at
Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley
Thursday July 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Elections took place at the June meeting. The same crummy cast of characters was re-elected. Probably **still** planning to run us all to hell in a handbasket.

Our treasurer and membership chairs are in the process of collecting dues.

July 2026

A selection of NETS

Monday	**Condor Connection** (Plays Newsline)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	**County ACS** HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	**Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International**	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	**LSB Net**	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Saturday	**SSARC SSB HF Net**	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	**The Newbie net**	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 –0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net	8:30 PM	447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz

Additional listings of **MORE** local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: http://www.cvarc.org

* For more information, see http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/

Jul	5	Kevin KD6UTC
	12	Matt N3AR
	19	Ron K6RIN
	26	Kerwyn N6YHX
Aug	2	Matt KN6SEC
	9	Brian KM6MIN
	16	Kevin KD6UTC
	23	Matt N3AR
	30	Ron K6RIN

ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at **frankki6oq@gmail.com.**

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs **Tuesdays**. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on. **Stop by and say Hi**. You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The Tuesday **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

During the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

The Tuesday **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater on 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit **vccomm.org** for more updates.

30-Jun-26	Bill Woods	AB6BW	
7-Jul-26	Dante Smith	W6JCQ	
14-Jul-26	Lisa Trent	KK6AKR	
21-Jul-26	Frank Valdez	KI6OQ	
28-Jul-26	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	
4-Aug-26	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	ORT

Member Updates

Bad Mast

I got this set of nesting aluminum tubes from a clean up job. Hose clamps squeeze the slotted end, so the tubes kind of have to be a close fit. At least two sections are missing, and there are additional two sections that can go on the top. $20-30 each section. So if I want to use this, I have to pay money to complete the set, AND make some kind of a stand or mount.

Turns out these tubes were left outside, nested together. It was a herculean task to separate them. Removing corrosion on the outside was not too hard, but the inside bore was much more painful. Filing off burrs, cleaning up ends, and trying to sand all the crud was turning into a lot of work. I think there may be one or two sections with a small dent, preventing the next section from fully sliding inside.

Maybe I can use them if I keep them separate, not nested. I will probably have to keep some kind of protective lubricant or coating on them. End result? **Do not buy** nesting aluminum mast sections. They **will** get corroded, dented, not slide together, and leave a lot of black aluminum oxide on your hands every time you work with them.

July 2026

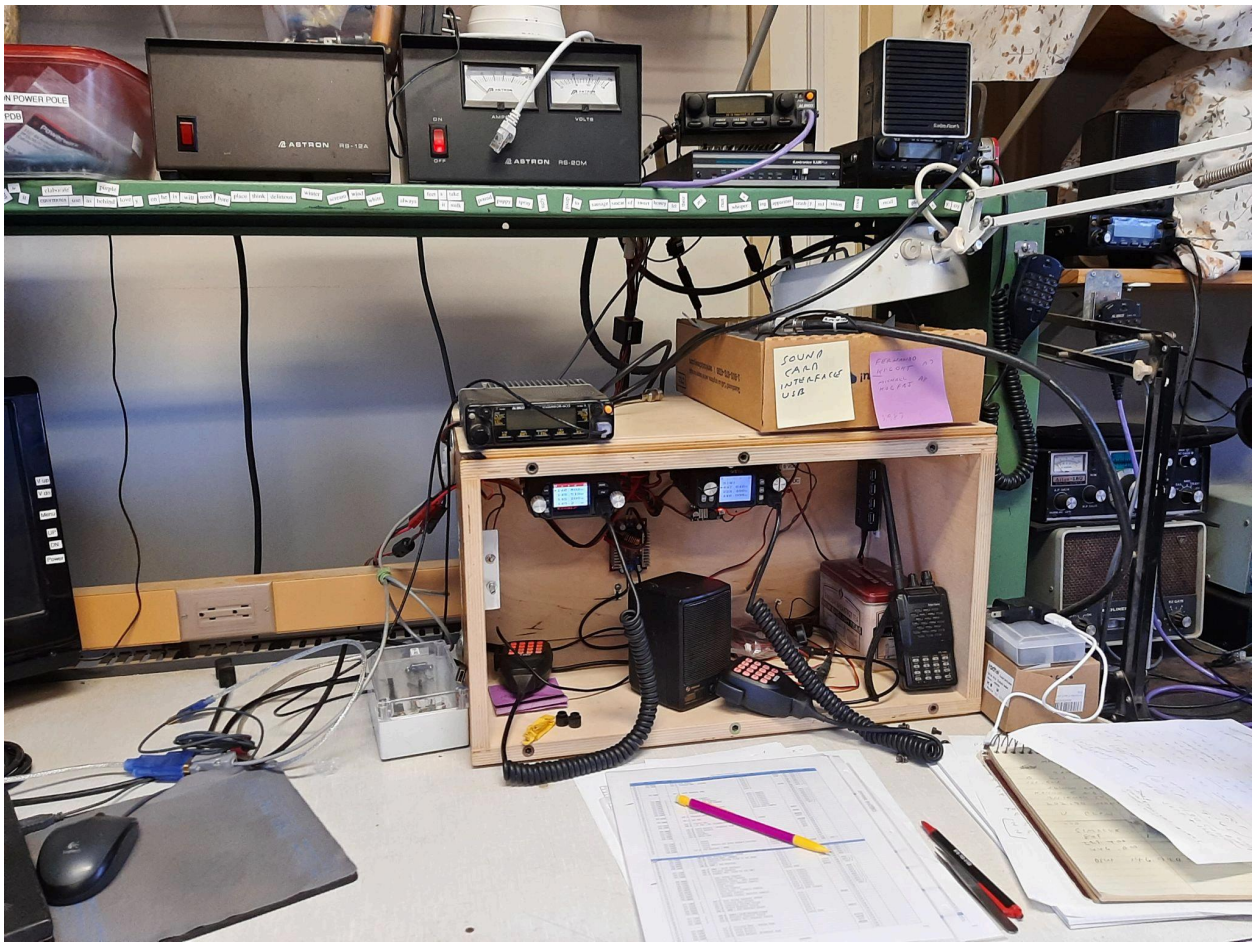
So what to do if you acquire a good antenna, but it is only a tiny bit crusty and needs putting together and testing?

How about you give it to Kerwyn N6YHX for the task? Here is a Hustler 4 band vertical that Kerwyn is going to re-assemble and play with for a while.

July 2026

Use your Go Box at Home?

So, I was in kind of a loop using my regular VHF / UHF radios, and then working on my portable set. Too much moving around and re-connecting stuff. How about I just keep the boxed set on the bench, and use that for the Tuesday night check ins? Using it every week gives lots of ideas for improvement.

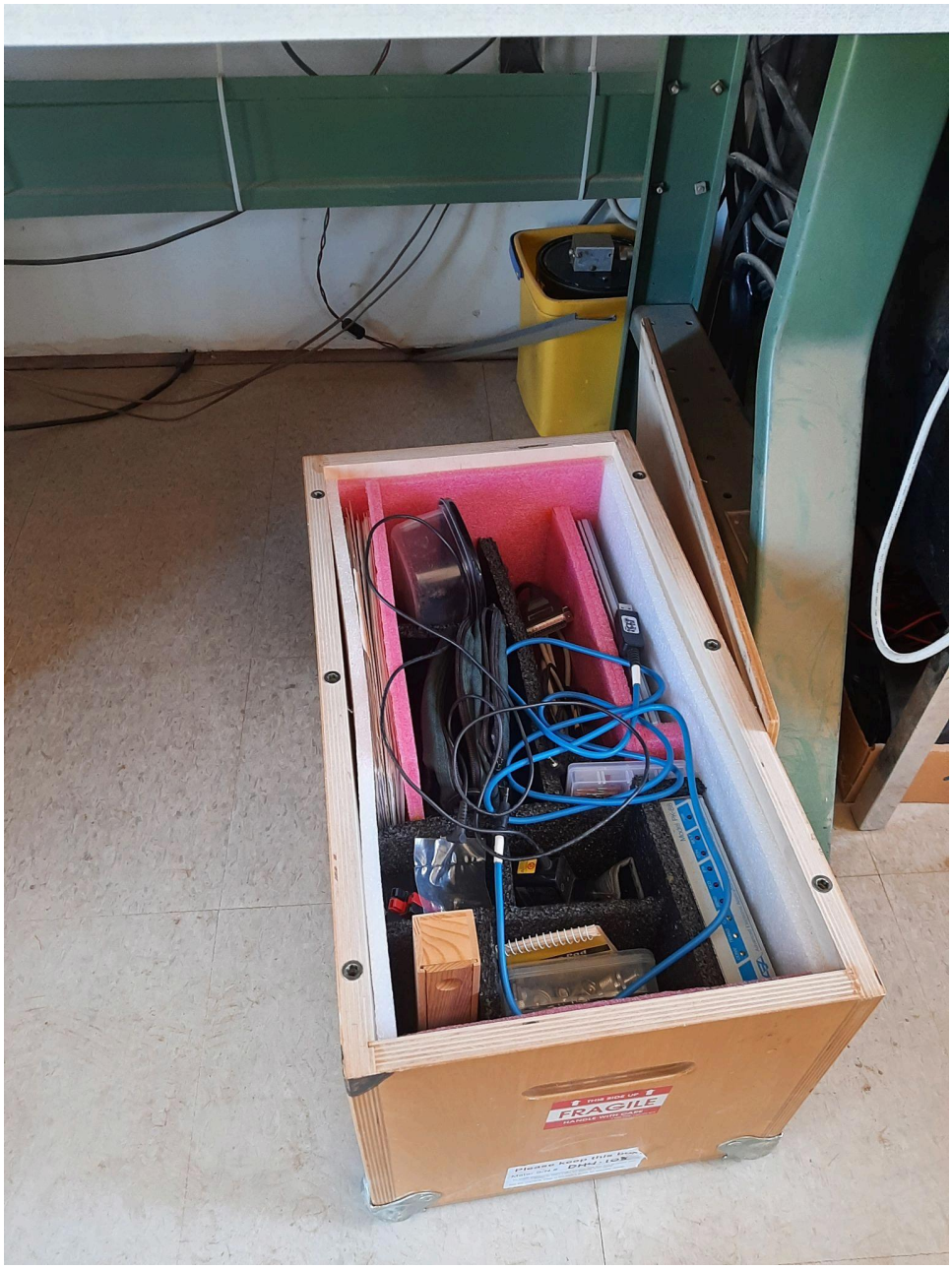


July 2026

Right under the bench is the “second box” holding papers, cables, fuses, and other bits. Makes for a good foot rest when the lid is on.

July 2026

Frequency lists, radio manuals, jumper cables… All the stuff that I might have to drag out anyway. Every time I think of something to add for portable operations, it goes in this box.



July 2026

Thumb Screws for Everything

I keep taking the Btech radios in and out of the portable box. A pain, cause I have to find a stubby screwdriver that fits between the radios and the side of the box.

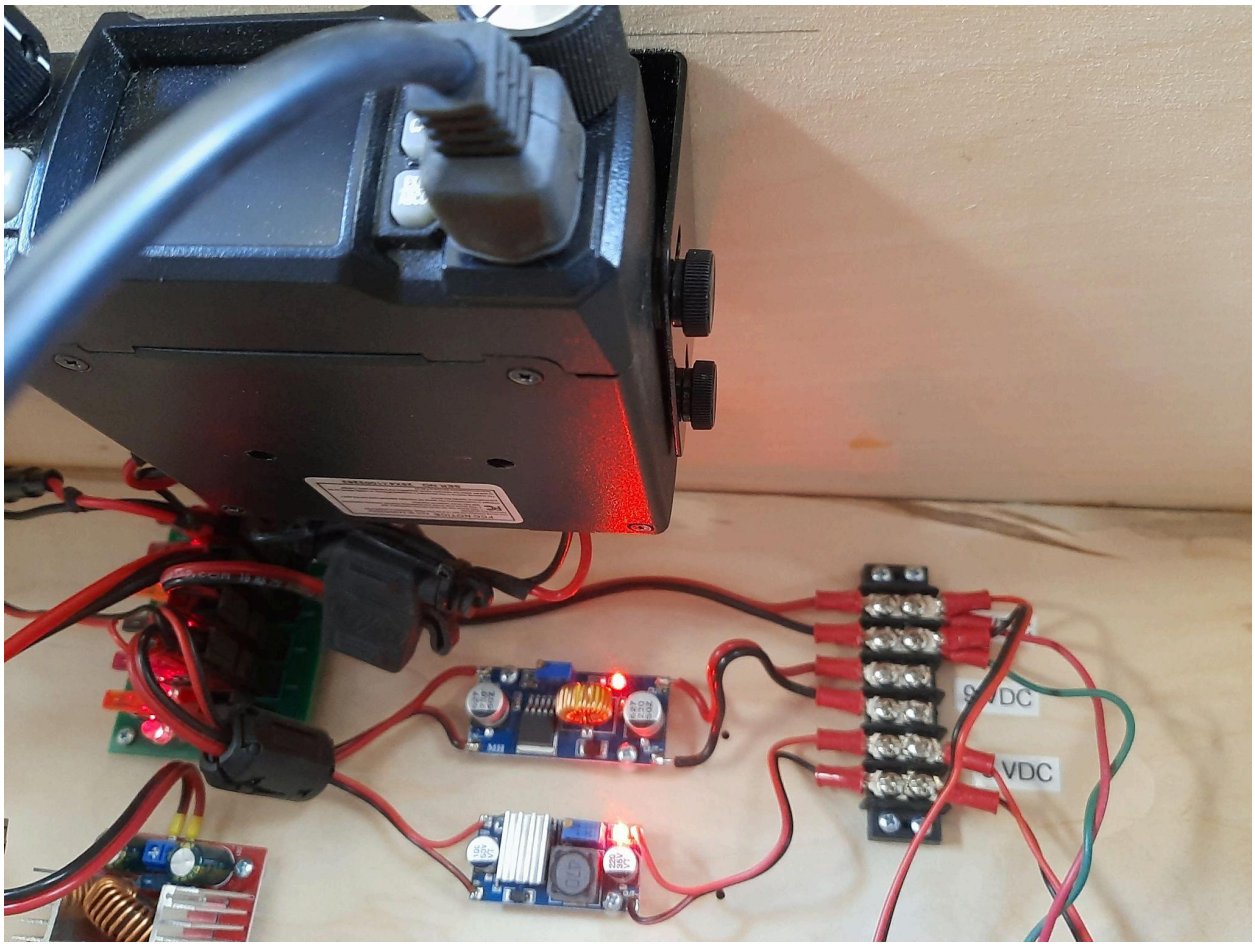
Here is the solution, instant thumb screw. These little plastic knobs press (hard) on a cap head screw and give you a good grip with no tools. They come in lots of sizes.

July 2026

Old phillips head screws, and new thumb screws.

July 2026

Here is the side of the radio with the two thumb screws, no tools required to remove the radio!



July 2026

Btech radio knobs

The radio Glenn WA6GNB gave me has these knobs on it. They work well.

July 2026

The newer Btech radio I bought has the tiny rubber knob as shown in the right hand dial, below. Too small, AND it keeps popping off. It is made of squishy rubber and not glued onto the potentiometer shaft. Sure as heck, if I put this radio on my marathon chasing bicycle, I will drop and lose the knob somewhere along the course.

The solution is as Glenn did, buy a replacement knob and secure it with a setscrew. The shiny silver knob on the left is a good fit, just got to rummage up another one.

July 2026

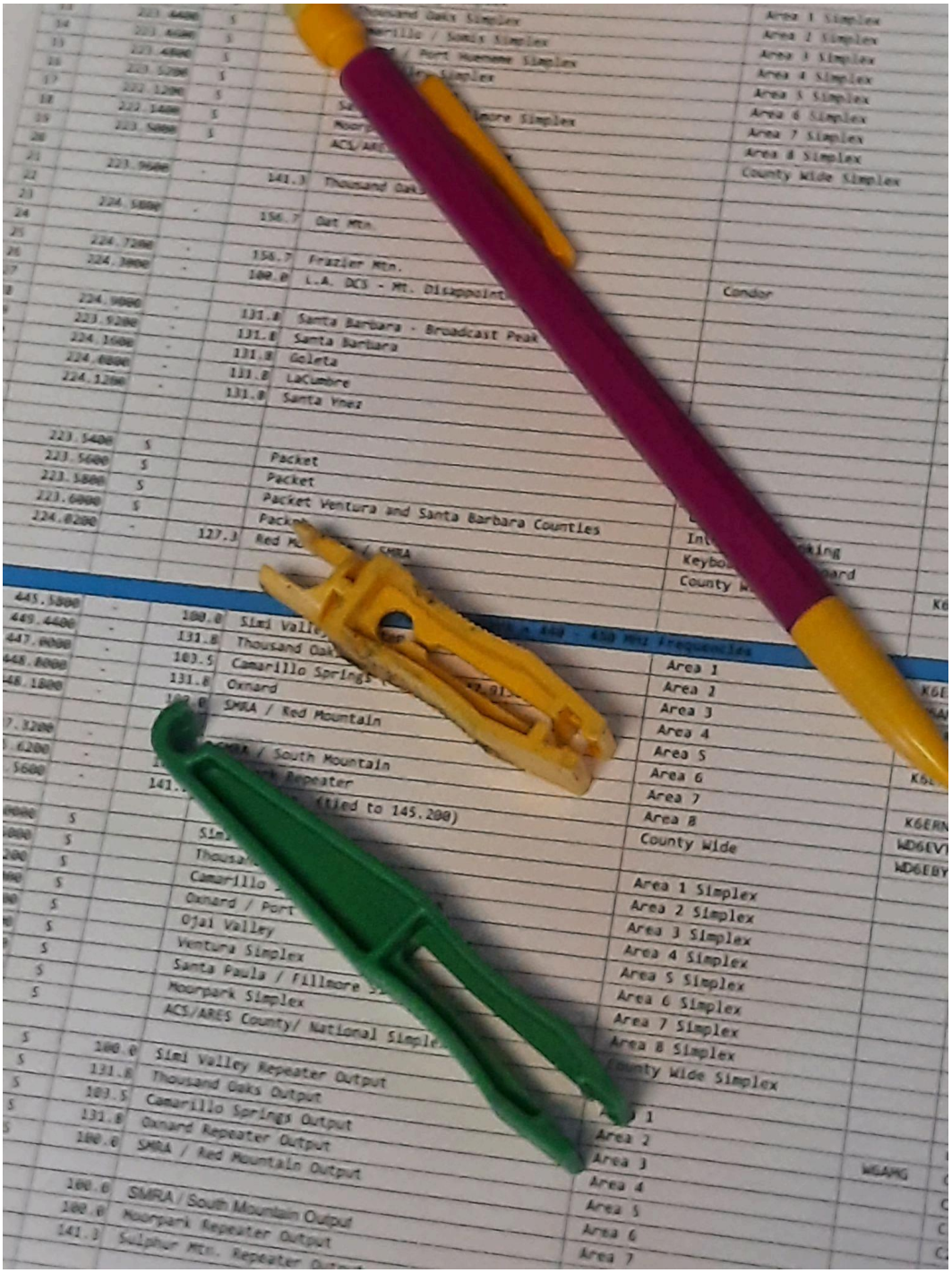
Fans should be felt and not heard

The tiny fan on the back of the older Btech radio squeals when it spins up. No problem, Amazon has these ball bearing replacements that cost $10 for 2. Now I just gotta get brave and crack open the radio case to do the fan surgery. Would that be called a “fanendectomy” ?

July 2026

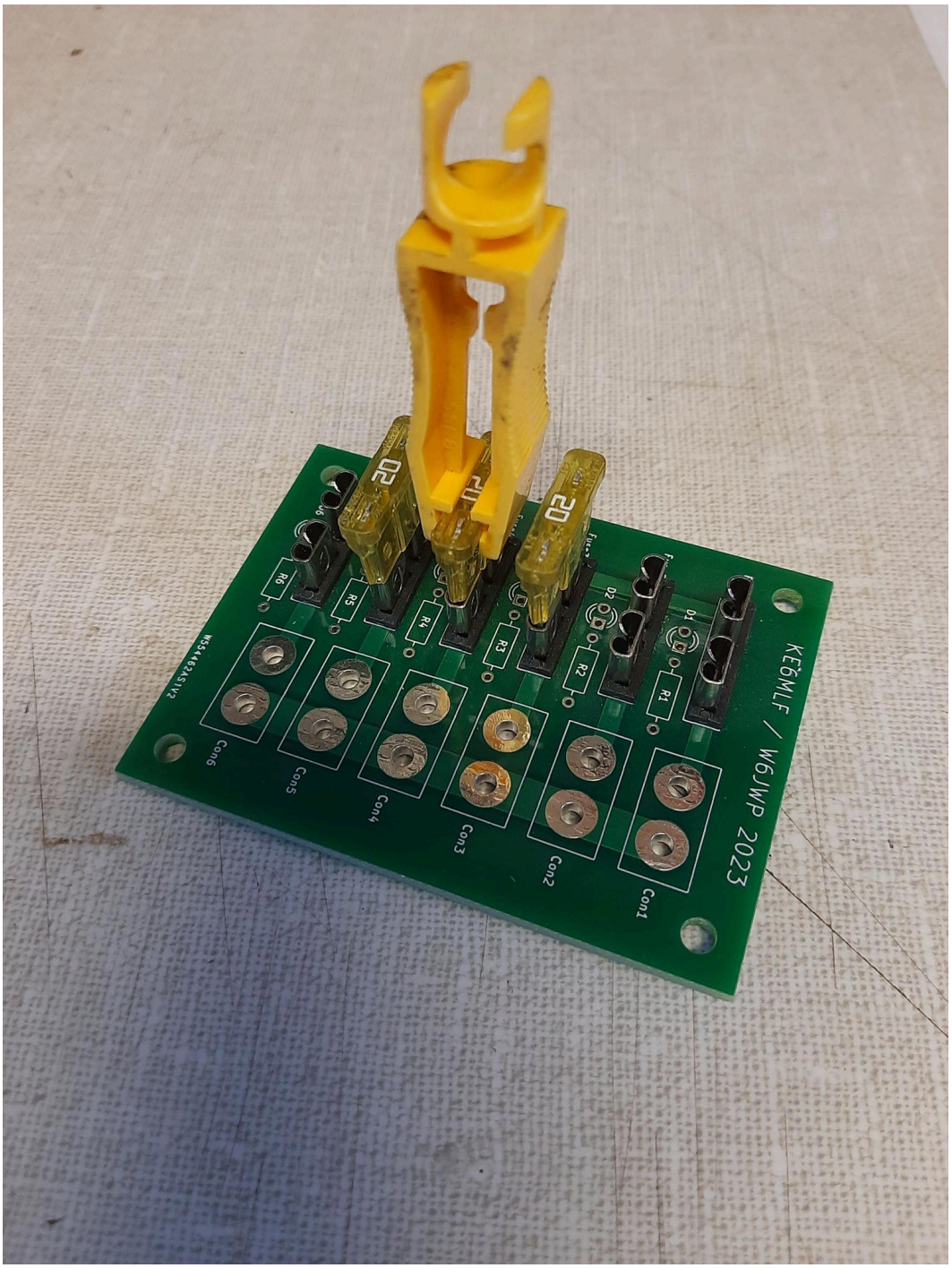
Pulling fuses can be a pain

My fat fingers can not get the fuses out of my own fuse block design. I need to get some more of these pullers off of Amazon to keep in **EVERY** tool box I have. The green one has longer reach, but the yellow one is better for closely packed AGC fuses.

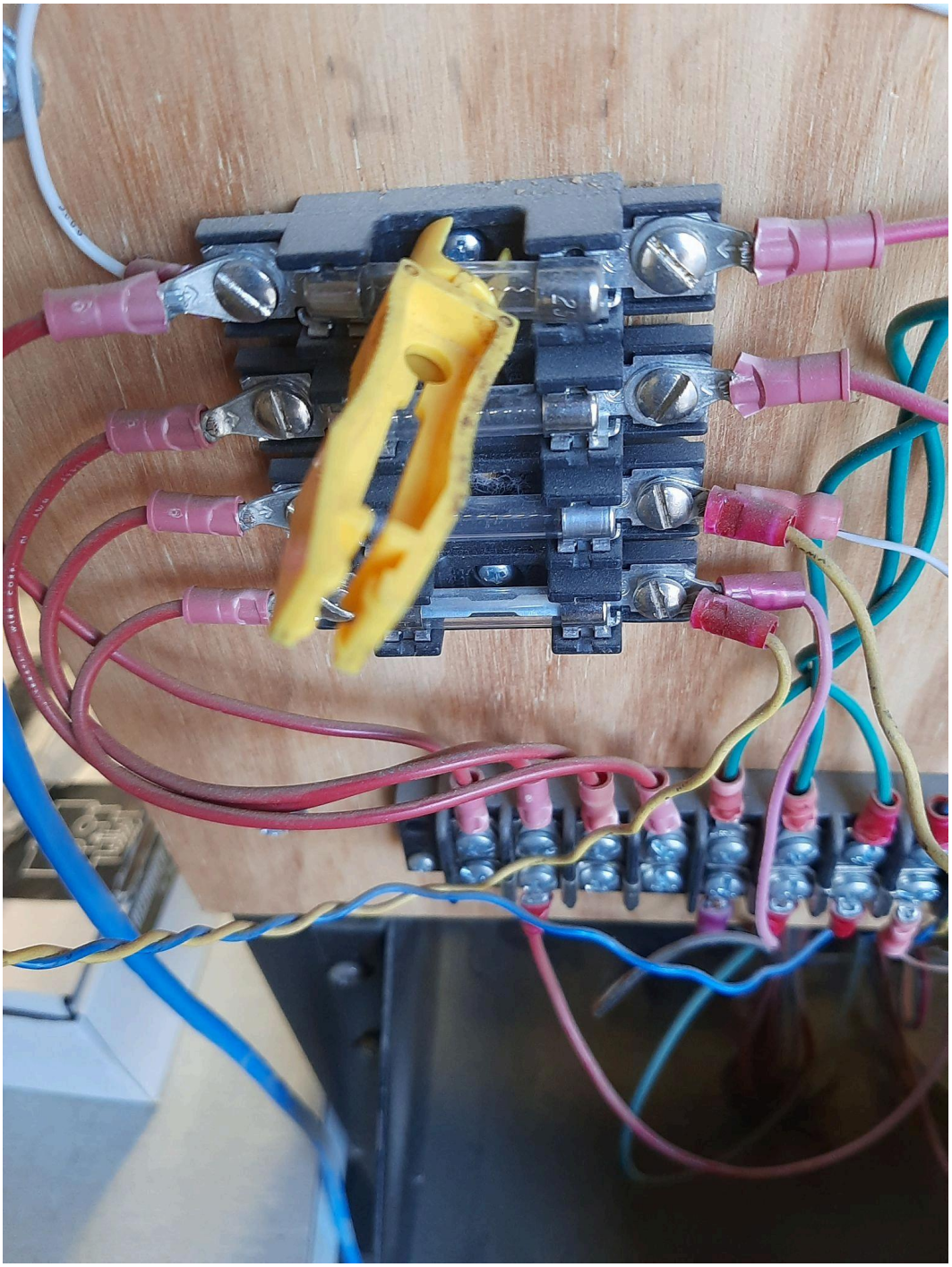


July 2026

Both are good, and can pull blade or All Glass (AGC) style fuses.



July 2026



July 2026

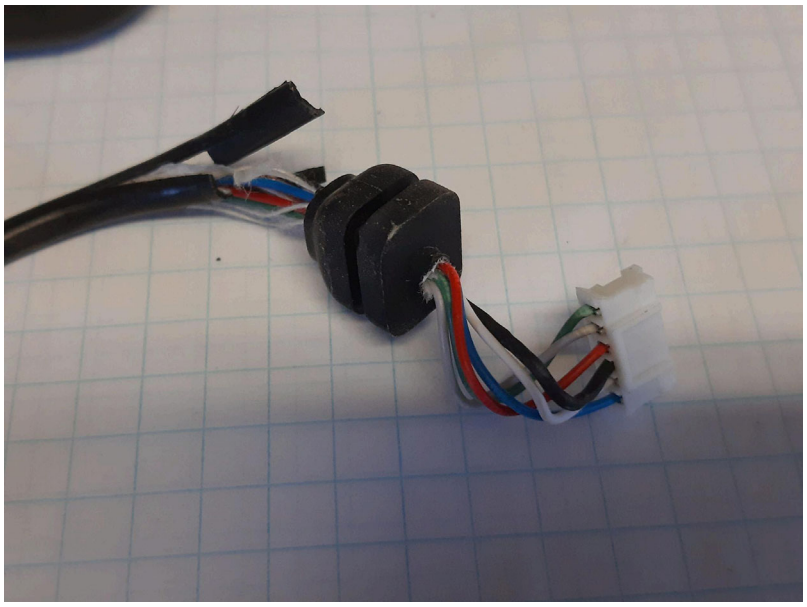
Microphone Cable Woes

The coily cord for David K06EJH is falling apart. A common issue, always seems to start at the mic end, not the radio connector. No problem.

The microphone with offending cable. Looks like the strain relief disintegrated, the coils and connector parts look good.

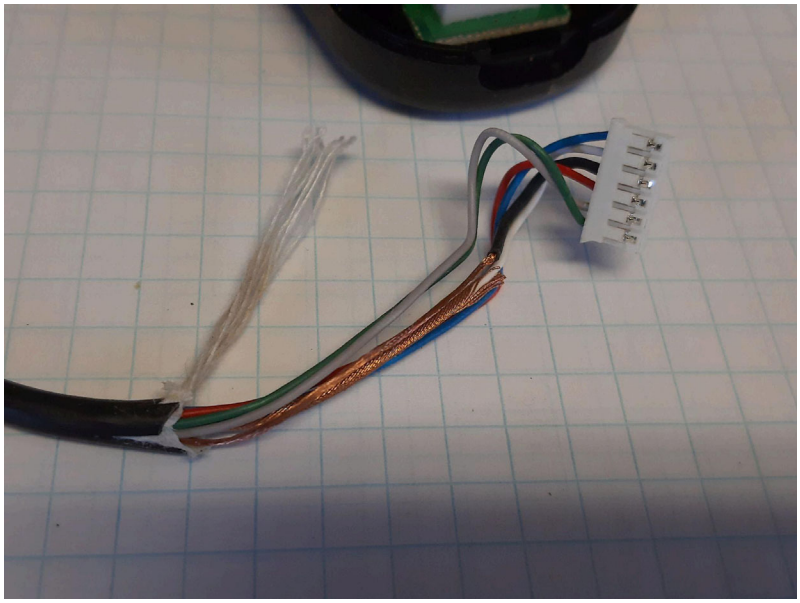
July 2026

Crack the case open.

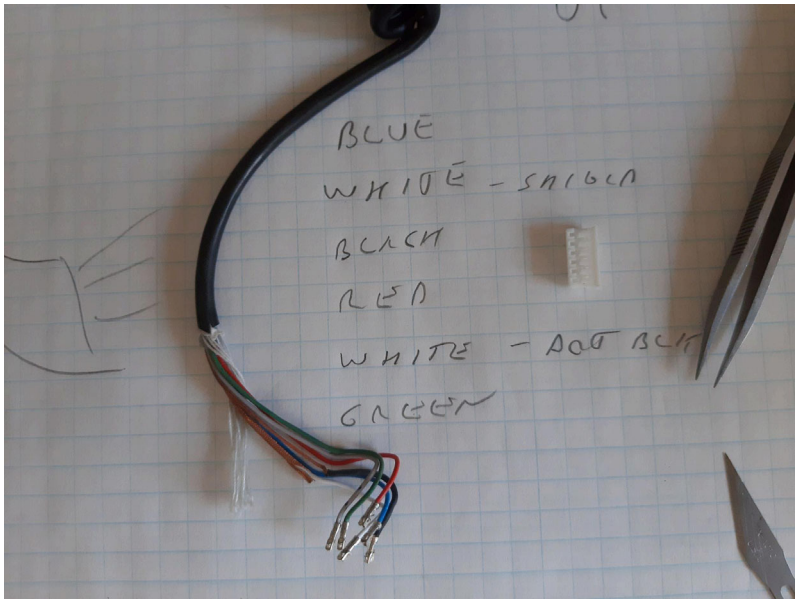


Cut off the strain relief, cut off the degraded part of the outer sleeving.

July 2026

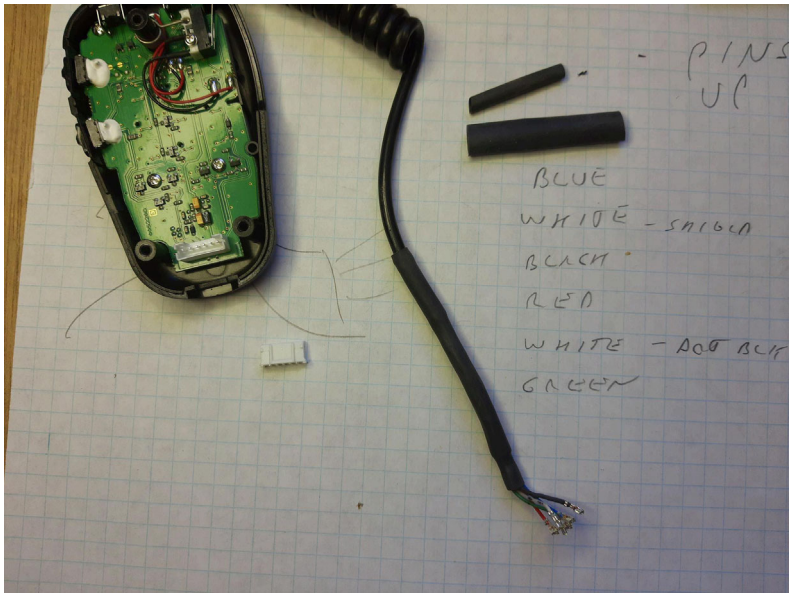


Cable cleaned up. See the tiny shiny silver bits? A pair of tweezers and tiny knife blade let you slide the individual pins out without any damage. The white strings are for strength and fillers to make the cable round.

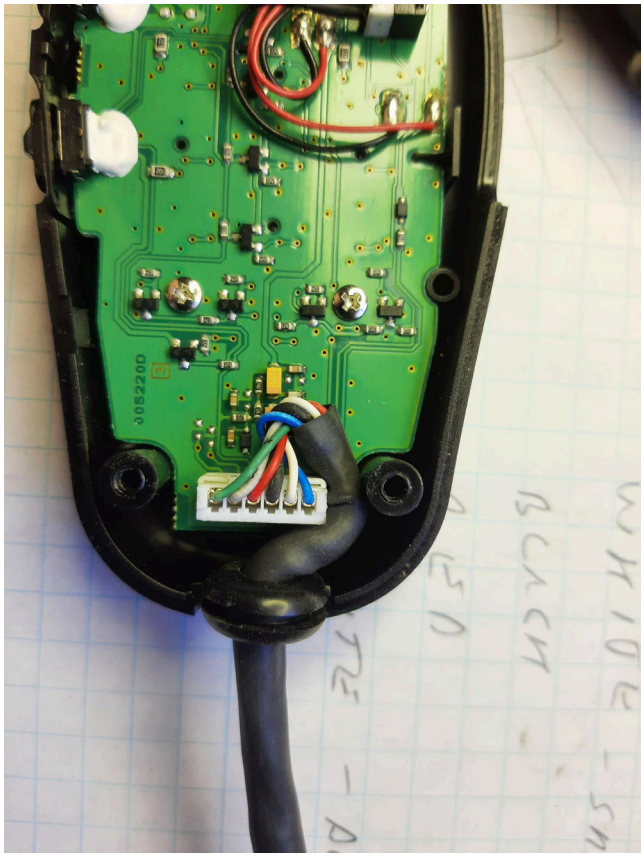


Vitality important! Make a list of what color goes to what pin position.

July 2026



New heat shrink tubing, 2 layers.



Found a grommet that fits in the cable entry. Connector back on, and the heat shrink tubing warmed up enough to form around the connector, provides a bit of strain relief.

Screwed the case back together, and delivered it to David for testing.

What are we going to do next time? Go to Amazon and buy a replacement already to go with connectors and strain relief for $10. Probably a cheap clone, but will work for a few years.

July 2026

Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles - **Create your profile here!**

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

www.theborednet.net - a local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the **groups.io** banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/main/messages

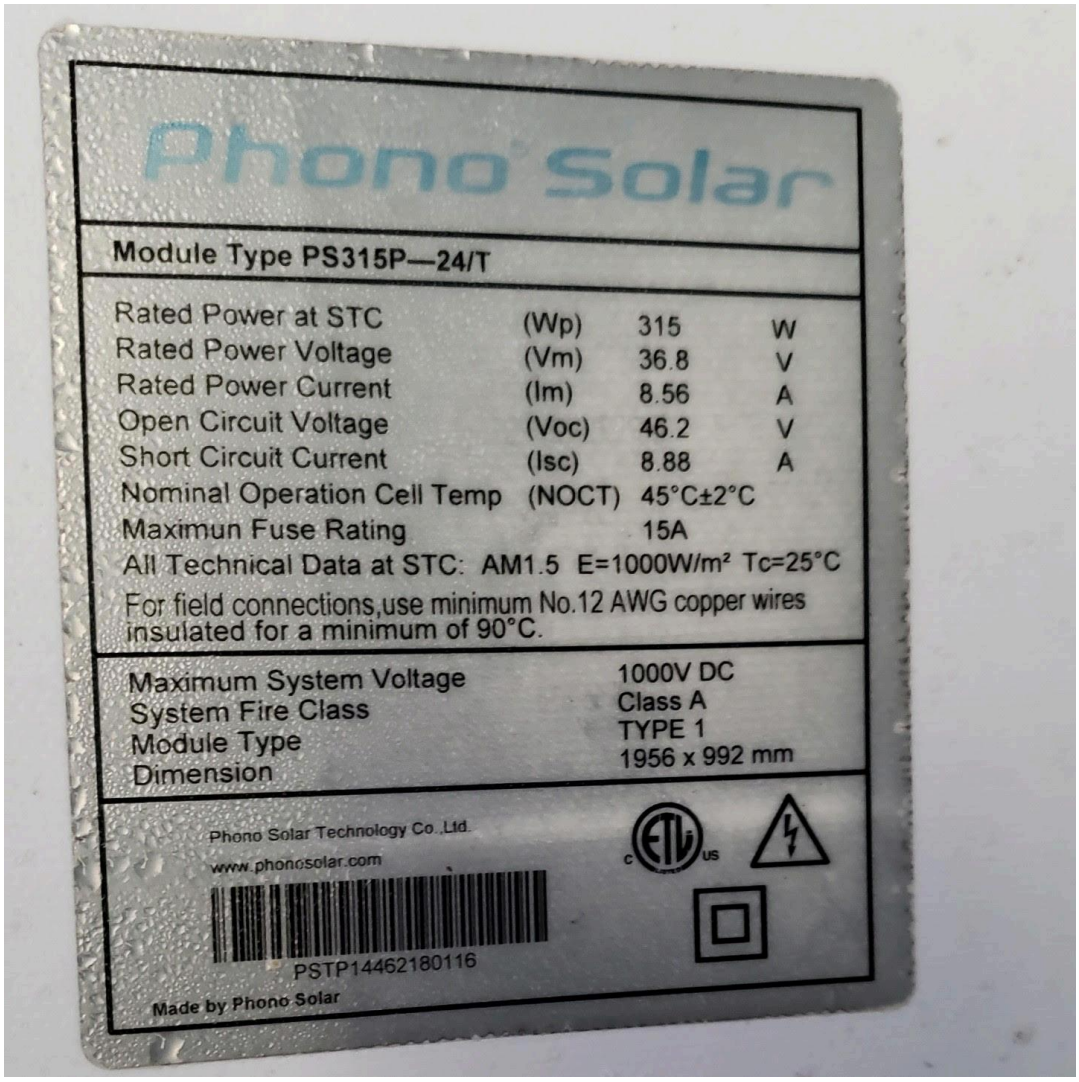
vc-acs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

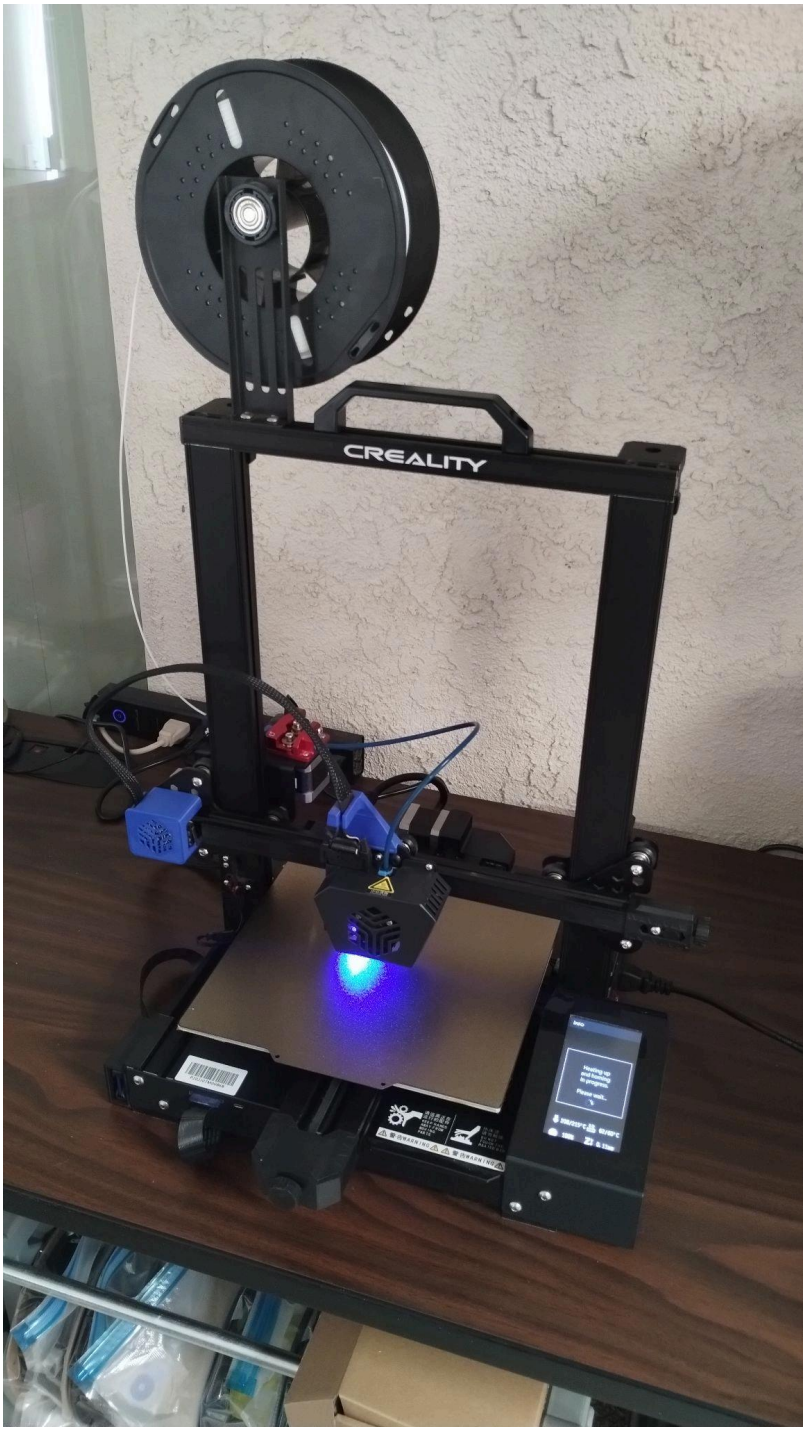
From Orv W6BI

For Sale - 315 watt solar panels - $50 each. Lightly-used prior to being taken out of service. Four available. Funds will be directed towards Simi Valley repeater maintenance



From Joe W6JWP

Creality CR-6 SE 3D Printer $150.00 OBO. Lots of tools and spare parts included. More pictures available upon request.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

July 2026

From Joe W6JWP

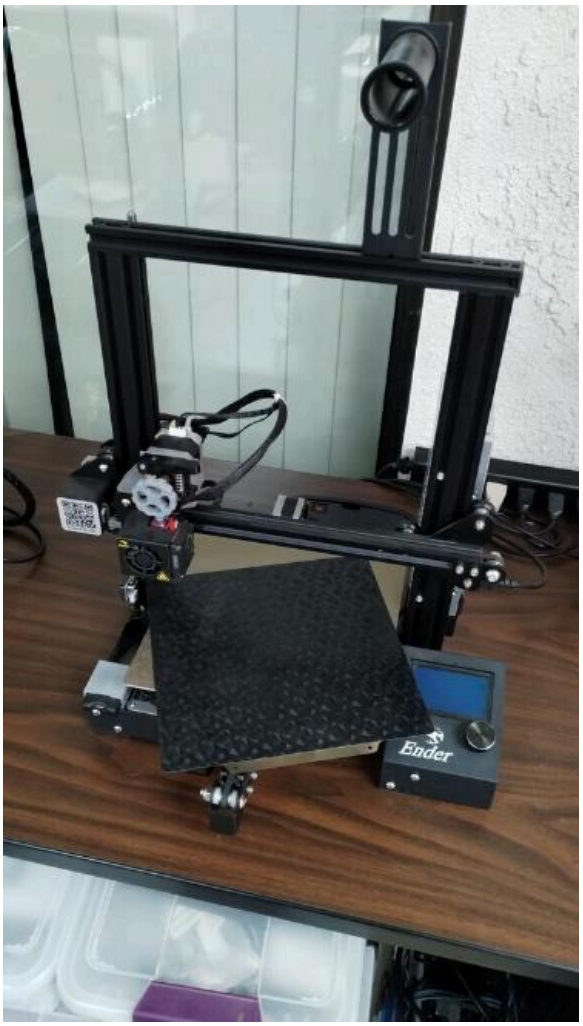
Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed. Includes a spare textured steel bed.

Good basic machine

Free to a good home.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

July 2026

LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER

This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ-measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for $99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: $5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

July 2026

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. $30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: http://www.simisettlers.org/index.htm
Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC
Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.org)

Membership Application

Type of Application: **Type of Membership:**

New Member ☐ Individual ($25/yr) ☐
Renewal ☐ Family ($30/yr) ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip:_____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $18.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $25.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s):_____(Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X $20.00 = $ _____

Name (s) Call(s):_____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ Family ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

July 2026